

THE AYURVEDIC PHARMACOPOEIA OF INDIA

PART- I

VOLUME – II



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AYUSH

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Note: This e-Book contains Computer Database generated Monographs which are reproduced from official publication. The order of contents under the sections of *Synonyms, Rasa, Guna, Virya, Vipaka, Karma, Formulations, Therapeutic uses* may be shuffled, but the contents are same from the original source. However, in case of doubt, the user is advised to refer the official book.

56. Nimba (Lf.)

NIMBA (Leaf)

Nimba (Leaf) consists of dried leaf of *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss Syn. *Melia azadirachta* Linn. (Fam. Meliaceae); a moderate sized to fairly large evergreen tree, attaining a height of 12-15 m with stout trunk and spreading branches, occurring throughout the country up to an elevation of 900 m.

SYNONYMS

Sanskrit	:	Ariṣṭa, Picumarda
Assamese	:	Mahanim
Bengali	:	Nim, Nimgach
English	:	Margosa Tree
Gujrati	:	Limba, Limbado, Limado, Kohumba
Hindi	:	Nim, Nimba
Kannada	:	Nimba, Bevu, Oilevevu, Kahibevu, Bevinama
Kashmiri	:	--
Malayalam	:	Veppu, Aryaveppu, Nimbam, Veppa
Marathi	:	Balantanimba, Limba, Bakayan, Nim, Kadunimb
Oriya	:	Nimba
Punjabi	:	Nimba, Bakan, Nim
Tamil	:	Vemmu, Veppu, Arulundi, Veppan
Telugu	:	Vemu, Vepa
Urdu	:	Neem

DESCRIPTION

a) Macroscopic

Leaves - Compound, alternate, rachis 15-25 cm long, 0.1 cm thick; leaflets with oblique base, opposite, exstipulate, lanceolate, acute, serrate, 7-8.5 cm long and 1.0-1.7 cm wide, slightly yellowish-green; odour, indistinct; taste, bitter

b) Microscopic

Leaf-

Midrib -leaflet through midrib shows a biconvex outline; epidermis on either side covered externally with thick cuticle; below epidermis 4-5 layered collenchyma present; stele composed of one crescent-shaped vascular bundle towards lower and two to three smaller bundle towards upper surface; rest of tissues composed of thin-walled, parenchymatous cells having secretory cells and rosette crystals of calcium oxalate; phloem surrounded by non-lignified fibre strand; crystals also present in phloem region.

Lamina - shows dorsiventral structure; epidermis on either surface, composed of thin walled, tangentially elongated cells, covered externally with thick cuticle; anomocytic stomata present on lower surface only; palisade single layered; spongy parenchyma composed of 5-6 layered, thin-walled cells, traversed by a number of veins; rosette crystals of calcium oxalate present in a few cells; palisade ratio 3.0-4.5; stomatal index 13.0-14.5 on lower surface and 8.0-11.5 on upper surface.

Powder - Green; shows vessels, fibres, rosette crystals of calcium oxalate, fragments of spongy and palisade parenchyma.

IDENTITY, PURITY AND STRENGTH

Foreign matter	Not more than	2	per cent, Appendix	2.2.2.
Total Ash	Not more than	10	per cent, Appendix	2.2.3.
Acid-insoluble ash	Not more than	1	per cent, Appendix	2.2.4.
Alcohol-soluble extractive	Not less than	13	per cent, Appendix	2.2.6.
Water-soluble extractive	Not less than	19	per cent, Appendix	2.2.7.

CONSTITUENTS - Triterpenoids and Sterols.

PROPERTIES AND ACTION

Rasa	:	Tikta
Guna	:	Rukṣa
Virya	:	Śīta
Vipaka	:	Katu
Karma	:	Grāhī, Vātalā, Pittanāśaka

IMPORTANT FORMULATIONS - Kāśīsādi Ghṛta, Jātyādi Ghṛta, Ārogyavardhinī Guṭikā, Nimbapatrādiupanāha, Pañcaguṇa Taila

THERAPEUTIC USES - Jvara, Kṛmiroga, Kuṣṭha, Netraroga, Prameha, Vrana, Āmaśoṭha, Viṣarogas

DOSE - 1-3 g. of the drug in powder form.
10-20 ml of the drug for decoction.